

# 11<sup>th</sup> Grade World Literature 2014-2015 Syllabus

**Mrs. McNesby**

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## **To be successful:**

Our class is a community of writers. To be a part of this community means to ...

- Participate and engage in our writing activities
- Share your writings with others
- Listen and respect the ideas and writings of others (including me ☺)
- Help to create an environment where others feel safe to share their ideas and writings
- Make your classmates look good – help them to become better writers, listeners and speakers

## **Writing**

In this class we will write in various forms including but not limited to ...

- Logs
- Audits
- Reflections
- Writing warm-ups
- Developed and undeveloped writings

## **The Class**

- Attend class always. (Communicate your absences preferably ahead of time – but at least on the day of – so that you will not be behind. Check my wikispace for the homework.)
- Participate actively in discussions, readings, group work and presentations.
- Strive to build a constructive and meaningful relationship with your peers and your teachers.

## **Materials**

- Notebook/copybook
- Folder for English papers only
- Box of tissues

## **First Quarter: The Memoir and Personal Essay**

- *Hole in My Life* by Jack Gantos
- *Night* by Elie Wiesel
- Supplemental memoirs and personal essays
- Term Paper: Choose and begin reading term paper book.

## **Second Quarter: The Play**

- *Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare
- Supplemental (excerpts from other plays)
- Term Paper: Finish reading book and begin the research/writing process.

## **Third Quarter: The Myth**

- Folktales, fairy tales, legends
- Non-fiction supplementals for analysis
- *The Odyssey and Oedipus Rex*
- Term Paper: Continue the writing process and complete the term paper.

## **Fourth Quarter: Allegorical Works**

- Complete *The Odyssey and Oedipus Rex*
- *Siddhartha* by Hermann Hesse
- Supplemental works

### **Absentee Procedure/Late Work Policy:**

If you are absent from class, YOU MUST TAKE THE INITIATIVE to find out what you have missed. I will not track you down to collect assignments, review missed material, or schedule make-up tests/quizzes. When you return, you must take responsibility for your absence. Ask a friend for any missed notes. Failure to make up missed work will result in an automatic ZERO. You are responsible for maintaining your own grade.

### **Late Work Policy**

You are required to turn in assignments on time when you are present for school. Be sure to submit work on days that you will miss class due to an early dismissal or late arrival (including sports and school-related activities). In other words, if you are in the building, your work is due. YOU ARE HERE, even if you miss this class.

- Late homework assignments will only be accepted ONE DAY late for half credit.
- Late writing assignments and projects WILL be accepted; however, your grade for the assignment will drop a letter grade for each day that the assignment is late.
- Writing assignments must be ready to be handed in, printed BEFORE class. If you are having printing issues, give yourself enough time to resolve the issue. If the problem persists, email me in advance so that I may respond back to you. If you wait to tell me about your failed printing attempts, your assignment is considered late.
- You will have NO MORE THAN ONE WEEK to make up any tests/quizzes missed due to an excused absence. Failure to make up the assessment within one week will result in a ZERO. See me to schedule a makeup during a study hall or after school.

### **Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is a violation of academic ethics. Plagiarism is the use of another person's work and is academically considered theft. This means you absolutely MUST give credit to the proper source if you directly copy, **paraphrase**, or summarize another's person's ideas. Copying, stealing, or borrowing someone else's homework is plagiarism! Three or more significant words taken directly from another work should be cited. In accordance with the school guidelines, violation of the plagiarism policy will result in a ZERO for the assignment.

You will be working hard this year, and I will be working hard for you. I expect that you will have the maturity to speak with me or email me directly about any concerns, as I will be doing the same. I check my email daily and will do my best to get back to you in a timely manner. Feel free to ask any questions! I look forward to an excellent year and am excited to work with you.

### **Departmental Policies**

- Quarter and semester grades will not be rounded. (Example: 89.5 = B)
- There will be no opportunities for extra credit at the end of the quarter or semester.
- The average of the midterm and final *percentages* will be weighted as a "fifth marking period" when calculating final average.
- The term paper will count for 51% of the quarter in which it is due.
- The term paper process will span the length of three quarters. During this time, it is mandatory that the student to stay on top of the reading, research and writing process outside of class.

**Best wishes for a great year!**

## CLASSROOM CONTRACT

*After reading and discussing this classroom contract with your parent/guardian, please provide your name and signature in the space below. In addition, please have your parent/guardian provide his/her name and signature in the space below. Please feel free to write on the back of this sheet any information you would like to share about yourself/your child. Once both portions have been signed, please submit this page to Mrs. McNesby. Keep pages 1-2 of this classroom contract in your English notebook so that you may refer to it throughout the school year. **This contract and required materials are due on Monday, September 8, 2014.***

### STUDENT

I have read, understood, and agreed to the guidelines and procedures for Mrs. McNesby's English class, and have shared them with my parent/guardian. I understand that the term paper process will span the length of three quarters and that I am responsible for much of this outside of class hours. I am also aware of the consequences for any form of plagiarism.

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

### PARENT/GUARDIAN

I have read, understood, and agreed to the guidelines and procedures for Mrs. McNesby's English class, and have discussed them with my child. I understand that the term paper process will span the length of three quarters and that students will be responsible for much of this outside of class hours. I am also aware of the consequences for any form of plagiarism.

Parent/Guardian's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you! I look forward to working with you this year! ☺**